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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1700**

**PATENT**

I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

June 24, 2004  
Date

Carolyn L. Ross  
Carolyn L. Ross

*Do not enter.*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*f-cc  
7/15/04*

Appl. No. : 09/915,658	Confirmation No. : 9163
Applicants : Gundu M. Sabde and Whonchee Lee	
Filed : July 25, 2001	Attorney Docket No.: 500163.04
Art Unit : 1765	Customer No. : 27,076
Examiner : Kin-Chan Chen	
Title : METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR PLANARIZING MICROELETRONIC SUBSTRATE ASSEMBLIES	

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action dated April 26, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.